

With 12 lovely young ladies from which to select, judges at the 2012 Miss Scott County Fair Queen Pageant on Sunday, evening, July 15, took their time selecting the county's new Queen and Fair Princess.

First, the 2012 Miss Congeniality was announced. This young lady was selected by the girls entering this year's competition, and is honored for her friendly and out-going personality. Miss Congeniality is Bailey Nicole Jeffries.

Tall, blonde Laura Ashleigh Rogers, 2012 Fair Princess, was spotlighted next. Should the new Queen be unable to compete at the 2012 Miss Indiana State Fair Pageant in August, Fair Princess Laura will step up and participate.

Though there was no nerve-stretching drum roll, tension was certainly in the air, and then, all eyes were on Nicole Walker, the 2012 Fair Queen. Surprise and joy flooded her face as dozens of cameras flashed and she was assisted with her crown, cape, flowers and trophy by 2011 Miss Scott County Elizabeth Stivers.

Queen Nicole, 17, is the beautiful brunette daughter of Lori Lykins and Mike Walker of Scottsburg. She is sponsored by the Scottsburg Lions Club.

She said she was absolutely surprised by her selection as Queen. "I sure didn't know I had a chance. I've never been in a pageant before!" she declared. She expressed her thanks to her family, the Pilot Club and Fair Board.

The new Queen will be a senior at Scottsburg High School this fall. Nicole is currently ranked first academically in her class with a 4.0 GPA. She is treasurer of the Class of 2013.

Her extracurricular schedule includes National Honor Society (NHS), Student Advisory Group, French Club and the yearbook staff. In the Student Advisory Group, she frequently organizes and leads meetings. In Sunshine Society, she has served as a freshman class representative and a sophomore class representative. This year, she will be a senior class representative.

On "The Totem" yearbook staff, Nicole has served as a sales manager and was recently named as editor-in-chief.

Her involvement in NHS has offered her many volunteer opportunities, such as helping with the annual Good Neighbor banquet. She enjoys attending Northside Christian Church in New Albany.

Nicole is a competitive cheerleader at All Star Tumbling, where she has just begun her 11th season. She is also an instructor there, coaching cheerleading and tumbling and helping young girls develop their athletic abilities as well as dedication, determination and self-confidence.

Queen Nicole has received her gorgeous crown and queen's pin compliments of Victorian Hope Chest. Her trophy is sponsored by Phillips Network.

Prizes include a 16x20 color portrait from Graceful Images, a \$50 gift certificate from the Scott County State Bank, a \$75 gift certificate from Cathcart and Company and a gown discount offered by Victorian Hope Chest.

Queen Nicole can be found at the Scott County Fair all this week, taking up the duties of her office and helping award 4-H ribbons, plaques and other honors. She and her family and friends will also enjoy attending each of the grandstand events in the Queen's box, supplied with the

compliments of the Fair Board.

Princess Laura, 18, is the daughter of Donna and Edward Rogers. In the pageant, she was sponsored by the Theta Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Psi Sorority.

"I am so happy. It's an honor, and the pageant and the week we were all together was a lot of fun," advised the new Princess.

Laura is a 2011 graduate of Scottsburg High School and now attends IU Southeast, majoring in elementary education. She is a member of Fairview Christian Church.

In high school, her leadership skills earned her the post of editor-in-chief of the student newspaper "The Booster," and she was also president of Drama Club. She served as spirit coordinator for Student Council and was a member of National Honor Society. She was also a seven-year member of the Scottsburg Band of Warriors in which she played flute and trombone and served as section leader over low brass for two years.

Laura is employed at McDonald's Restaurant in Scottsburg. She tutors elementary students in reading and math through the national program America Reads. She also spends extra time volunteering at Grant Line Elementary School in New Albany, helping teachers with teaching and lessons plans.

At IU Southeast, she is a member of the Crimson Crew, which helps new freshmen on campus. She also plays piano at her church, has been a member of the faculty at Wonder Valley Christian camps for children and helps her sister annually with Operation Christmas Child, collecting and coordinating delivery of shoe boxes filled with small presents for overseas children.

This fall, Laura will go back to IU Southeast to complete her sophomore year and prepare for acceptance into the School of Education in 2013.

Fair Princess Laura receives a trophy sponsored by Phillips' Network, an 11x14 portrait by Graceful Images and a \$50 gift certificate from Cathcart and Company.

Miss Congeniality Bailey Nicole Jeffries is the daughter of Timothy Jeffries and Angela Southern. Her sponsor was the Austin Lions Club.

A boisterous brunette, Bailey is a May graduate of Austin High School and a member of the First Christian Church of Scottsburg, where she is employed in daycare for young children.

While in high school, she maintained a grade point average of 3.8 and graduated with high distinction. She served as secretary of the Class of 2012 and was a member of the National Honor Society, Sunshine Society, Spanish Club and Book Club. She served as a mentor with Big Brothers Big Sisters and was editor-in-chief of the high school's newspaper and yearbook staffs.

Bailey has also devoted hours to volunteer work, helping with the annual elementary school's fall carnival, Kids First and We Care auctions, Angel Tree efforts, American Cancer and Heart Association fund-raisers and, most recently, with Henryville tornado relief efforts.

She earned several academic awards for her achievements and collected several scholarships to help her as she continues her education at IU Southeast this fall. She wants to major in secondary education with a focus in English.

This summer, she is participating in Ninth District Congressman Todd Young's Congressional Leadership Program and is employed part-time at The Grand Events in downtown New Albany.

As Miss Congeniality, Bailey receives a trophy sponsored by the Pilot Club of Scott County. She also receives an 8x10 color portrait from Graceful Images and a \$25 gift certificate from Cathcart and Company.

Each of the three young ladies received a special gift from Pam Rowden, who directed the

candidates and Queen Elizabeth in the evening's dance routine.

The Queen Pageant is organized by members of the Pilot Club of Scott County. Cindy Gladstein was this year's chairman

Sponsors include Stewart and Hoagland Funeral Home, Arbuckle Electric, USA Roadhouse, Arbuckle Electric Security Systems, Fewell Monument Company, Vista Care Hospice, Matt Clark of MM Office Products Inc., Ralph Randall of Randall Law Office, Paula and Butch Murray of Baringer Floral Shop and Greenhouses, Rich Ottersbach of OEI.

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Special thanks was expressed to members of the Scott County Fair Board, Scottsburg First Christian Church, Marty Randall and Green Banner Publications, Wilda and Dennis Preble, Pam Rowden, Barb and Bill Hoagland and J&C Printing.